

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: 18TH FAO CONFERENCE - STATEMENT OF THE PLO

1. LATE IN AFTERNOON SESSION NOVEMBER 13, PLO SPOKESMAN DR. WALID KAMHAWI, MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PLO DELIVERED LOW-KEY STATEMENT EXPRESSING PLO GRATITUDE AT BEING ALLOWED PARTICIPATE FAO IN OBSERVER STATUS. KAMHAWI REFERRED TO "A DELEGATION" (ISRAEL) WHICH HAD BROUGHT POLITICS INTO CONFERENCE BY PREVIOUSLY OBJECTING TO PLO PARTICIPATION. SAME DELEGATION, HE SAID, HAD DELAYED PLO PRESENCE AT FAO FOR FULL GENERATION.

2. WHILE SPEECH REFERRED FREQUENTLY TO ISRAELIS (WHOSE SEAT WAS UNOCCUPIED AND WHO HAD EARLIER INFORMED US THEY WOULD NOT CONTEST PLO DELIVERY) THERE WAS ONLY ONE MENTION US. THIS WAS TO EFFECT THAT AFTER WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP WERE OCCUPIED, ISRAEL, WITH ENORMOUS AMOUNT AMERICAN HELP, PUT HEAVY PRESSURE ON ARAB AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY.

3. PLO "HOPEFULLY" SUGGESTED FAO UNDERTAKE STUDY OF AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AND DRAW A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS OF PALESTINIAN FARMERS. KAMHAWI SAID PLO WOULD BE GLAD TO WORK WITH

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SIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS OF PALESTINIAN FARMERS. KAMHAWI SAID PLO WOULD BE GLAD TO WORK WITH

FAO ON A MEANS BY WHICH FAO COULD USE LARGER NUMBER OF PALESTINIAN EXPERTS AND THROUGH WHICH FAO TRAINING PROGRAMS IN NEAR EAST AREA COULD BE AVAILABLE TO PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.

4. FYI. PRIOR TO PLO SPEECH FAO DIRECTOR-GENERAL ELECT SAO-UMA ASSURED US HE HAD CONSULTED WITH PLO DELEGATION AND THEIR COMMENTS WOULD BE MODERATE. BEAUDRY

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